

10/5881 17  
AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 02 AUG 2006

Docket No.: 3557G-000067/US/NP  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Daisuke Shirai et al.

Application No.: National Phase of  
PCT/JP2005/001456

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For: SCR Muffler

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

MS PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

A summary/abstract translation of the non-English language references is enclosed.

Applicant has not submitted copies of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application as required by 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i), amended October 2004, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has waived this requirement for all U.S. patent applications.

10/388203

Application No.: National Phase of PCT/JP2005/001456 Docket No.: 3557G-000067/US/NP

JP20 REG'D PCTO 02 AUG 2006

Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign and non-patents in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the references.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 08-0750, under Order No. 3557G-000067/US/NP.

Dated: August 2, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Gregory A. Stebbins

Registration No.: 28,764

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.

P.O. Box 828

Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303

(248) 641-1214

Attorney for Applicant

10/588203

PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

|  |   |    |   |                                       |                       |
|--|---|----|---|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO  |   |    |   | Complete if Known<br><b>10/588203</b> |                       |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |   |    |   | Application Number                    | Not Yet Assigned      |
|  |   |    |   | Filing Date                           | Concurrently Herewith |
|  |   |    |   | First Named Inventor                  | Daisuke Shirai        |
|  |   |    |   | Art Unit                              | N/A                   |
|  |   |    |   | Examiner Name                         | Not Yet Assigned      |
| Sheet  | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number                | 3557G-000067/US/NP    |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |  |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials*    | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                       | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
|                       | AA*                   | US-6,449,947-B1                          | 09-17-2002                     | Liu et al.   |   |
|                       | AB*                   | US-5,412,946-A                           | 05-09-1995                     | Oshima et al.                                      |   |
|                       | AC*                   | US-5,628,186-A                           | 05-13-1997                     | Schmelz et al.                                     |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |   |                                |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials*       | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |                |
|                          | BA                    | GB-2 386 845-A  | 10-01-2003                     |  |   | √              |
|                          | BB                    | JP-5-106430-A   | 04-27-1993                     |  |   | √              |
|                          | BC                    | EP-0 537 968-A1   | 04-21-1993                     |  |   | √              |
|                          | BD                    | JP-8-509795-A   | 10-15-1996                     |  |   | √              |
|                          | BE                    | WO-94/027035-A1   | 11-24-1994                     |  |   | √              |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. \* CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an single asterisk (\*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                       |   |                |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials*              | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|                                 |                       |   |                |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

|                    |  |                 |  |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature |  | Date Considered |  |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|

GAS/smc